



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10

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OFFICE OF
ECOSYSTEMS, TRIBAL AND
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

January 3, 2011

Dale Hom, Forest Supervisor
Olympic National Forest
1835 Black Lake Blvd, SW Suite A
Olympia, Washington 98512

Dear Mr. Hom;

EPA has reviewed the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the **Dosewallips Road Washout Project** (CEQ No. 20100431) in the Olympic National Forest, Washington. This review was conducted in accordance with our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act (CAA).

Our August 2008 comments on the Draft EIS expressed concerns regarding the proposed project due to potential water and air quality impacts. We recommended further evaluation of erosion and sediment control measures, and analysis of mobile emission sources to minimize impacts. On June 21, 2010, we received your letter providing us with an update on the project and how you were considering our comments in the preparation of the Final EIS. Your responses to our comments address our concerns.

The Final EIS identifies a proposed Forest Plan amendment to a Survey and Management standard requiring activities that disturb old growth forest to conduct surveys for certain fungi species. The proposed amendment would drop this requirement to conduct fungi surveys for the proposed Dosewallips Road Washout Project preferred Alternative C.

The Final EIS indicates the presence of 17 sensitive fungi species that are suspected to occur on the Olympic National Forest. Surveys conducted in 2002 and 2006 yielded no results for the presence of fungi species. The analysis in the Final EIS has determined that the proposed amendment would not significantly alter the multiple-use goals and objectives of the Forest Plan. Therefore, EPA concurs with your decision to amend the Forest Plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Final EIS and the proposed Forest Plan amendment to the Survey and Management standard. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact Mark Jen at (907) 271-3411 or me at (206) 553-1601.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Christine B. Reichgott", is written over the typed name.

Christine B. Reichgott, Manager
Environmental Review and Sediment Management Unit